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Dec. 22 In this issue :

> Scenes of the VNPA Combatants' Life

THE FOUNDING, DEVELOPMENT AND PRESENT TASKS OF THE VIET NAM PEOPLE'S ARMY

- Interview granted by General VO NGUYEN GIAP to the review Militiarwesen of the German Democratic Republic -

OUESTION 1:

WHAT was the national and international context of the founding of the Viet Nam People's Army?

ANSWER :

THE Viet Nam people's armed forces came into being as the result of the firm, sound and creative leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party headed by President Ho Chi Minh. It was linked with the successful development of the Vietnamese Revolution in the content of the Vietnamese Revolution in the content of the vietnamese revolution in the content of the world with the world with the vietnamese revolution and the vietnamese revolution. world revolutionary movement.

the world revolutionary movement.

Our nation, endowed with a long and glorious history, has acquired in the course of its thousands of years of construction and combat, traditions of unyielding resistance to-foreign aggressors of all denominations. More recently, during the past eighty year recently, during the past eighty year mation, the Victamese people, undaunted by terror and repression of utmost barbarity, rose up incessantly against the rose up incessantly against the aggressors and their lackeys.

Since the beginning of the 20th century, especially since the victory of the Great October Revolution in

Russia which ushered in a new era in mankind's history, the Victuamese Revolution has witnessed new developments. It was Comrade H of Companies and the great patient of the Victuamese nation, who blazed the trail for our entire country with the light of Marxism-Leninsum and founded our Party, thereby most decisively mating possible all subsequent successes of the Victuamese Revolution,

As early as 1930, the very year of its birth, our Party already laid down the judicious line for the Vice names. Revolution: to carry out national democratic revolution and national democratic revolution and then socially revolution, by-passing the stage of capitalist development. Having graspod the Marxist-Leminist theory of violent revolution, it pointed out the only correct revolu-tionary method to remove the yoke of the imperialists and the feudalists is their as well as the more the of the imperialists and the feudalists in their pay, as well as the necessity of opposing revolutionary violence to counter-revolutionary violence to counter-revolutionary violence to contract the property of the counter-revolutionary violence to the contract the counter-revolution of the counter-revolu

In the revolutionary tide sweep-

ing the whole country in the years 1930-1931 climaxing in the establishment of the Nheh-Timb Soviet (Nghe An and Ha Tinh provinces - Ed.). Self-defence groups of workers and peasants were set up with the participation of elite elements foll of revolutionary zeal and bravery, workers and peasants association and the Young Communists' League, etc. These red self-defence formations etc. These red self-defence formations were just the first seeds of the revo-lutionary, armed forces of our

Dring the years of the Second World War, whilst the Soviet people and the other people in the world united to resist the German, Italian and Japanese facciets, a Italian said Japanese facciets, a launched in our country to over-throw the French colonialists and drive out the Japanese facciets. In face of the rapid evolution of the international region of the properties for an armed insurrection became a presing task. Our Party switched from the political struggle to the armed fast of the properties of the prope the building of revolutionary bases.

Thus, the first revolutionary

armed organisations of the Viet-namese people came into being one after another: the guerilla detach-ment of Buc Son (1949), the guerilla detachment for the Cochinchina hetachment of the proposition of the proposition of the proposition of the propagatals detachment of the Viet Nam Liberation Army (1944), the green laberation Army on three times of the propagatals detachment of the Viet Nam Liberation Army on three times from Contrade Ho Chi Minh, is regarded to the proposition of the Viet Nam People's Army,

In March 1945, the Japanese fas-ciats succeeded through a coup de force in outsing the French colonial-ists and seiting the whole Indochin-ists and seiting the whole Indochin-ese peninsula for themselves. The struggle of our people against Japanese occupation, for national salvation, vigourously developed heavier abade heavier losses on the enemy. From North to South, in the upsurge of the efforts against the paurge of the efforts against the Japanese fascists, the people's revo-lutionary organisations, querilla detachments and anti-Japanese bases multiplied quickly. Anti-Japanese guerilla was active everywhere.

(Continued page 4)

A manoeuvre of the Viet Nam People's Army



25th FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIET NAM PEOPLE'S ARMY Dec. 22, 1969

entinue and prolong the war. In his December 15 speech, the US President moreover ultered unveiled threats against the Vietnamese peo-ple. Mr. Ha Van Las pointed could never shake the determination of the Vietnamese people who have distinguished

and allowed to correspond with their families. It is the authorities who sent the US pilots to commit crimes against the Vietnamose neo

47th Plenary Session of Paris Conference on Viet Nam (Dec. 18, 1969)

Mr HA VAN LAU SEVERELY SCORES THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION'S WAR-LIKE POLICY

themselves in the course of their long history by their accessful resistance to various foreign invasions and who have not less successfully faced up to US aggression for

After casturation Mr Nixon's "three criteria for US with-drawal", the DRVN repre-sentative commented that Nixon's decision to pull out another 50,000 US troops by April 15 next year was part of the policy of drop-by-drop from reflection, prolongation of the occupation of South Viet Nam by US troops and prosecution of the war. He said even if this decision were carried out, then the rhythm of withdrawal would still remain very slow and by April next year there would remain no less than 434,000 US aggressors to continue wreaking destruction and

death every day Rejecting Mr Nixon's claim that a precipitate withdrawal will mean a "defeat and humiliation" for the United ntes, Mr Ha Van Lau made it clear that as a matter of lact the Vietnamese people had no intention to humiliate anybody, but they only wanted to regain genuine prace and independence for their country, to live on friendly terms with the American people and the per he world. The honour of the United States would be saved by promptly putting an end to the illegal and costly war of aggression in South Viet Nam.

The DRVN envoy went on "As far as the right to self-determination of the South Victuamese people is concerned, Mr Nixon still sets his face against the fair and reasonable proposal of the NFL and the RSVN PRG for the formation of a provi sional coalition governmen eral elections in South general elections in South Viet Nam. He also goes on urging the maintenance of the Thieu-Ky-Khiem adminthe South

rotten and fascist adminis tration. As for the US pilots detained in North Viet Nam. in his December 15 speech Mr Nixon gave a completely faise picture of their condition and distorted the human tion and distorted the human-itarian policy of the DRVN Government. These US pilots had come to bomb North Viet Nam, and had perpetrated uncountable crimes against the Victnamese people. They were caught in the act and are subject to the jurisdiction the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viel Nam. Yet. our Government has been applying a human-itarian policy towards them, the wounded and the sick have been given medical care, the others also well treated

ple and caused sufferings to their families. The great crime of the US authorities now is to refuse to rapidly settle the Viet Nam problem as a whole so as to permit these captured pilots to return to their families. On the contrary the Nixon adthe contrary the Nixon administration has been making use of this issue to arouse public opinion and to cover up the US aggressors' monstrous crimes against the South Victnamese people."

of goodwill and seriousness at the Paris Conference. clinging to the absurd claim for "mutual troop with-drawal" and attempt to maintain the Thieu-Ky-Khiem henchmen. Mr Nixon refuses to appoint a new chief delegate to the Conference and ries to downgrade the Paris Conference and eventually to sabotage it. The full respon-sibility for the prolongation of the war in Viet Nam and

Mr Ha Van Lau (layed the

Nixon administration's lack

for the continued deadlock

of the Paris Conference lies with the US government, Mr

Ha Van Lan concluded

NIXON'S DECEMBER 15 ANNOUNCEMENT

MR Nixon once again tried to sell his search for a "fair" and "just peace", a "settlement through negotiation" and if that fails, "Victnamization of the war". He also charged the Vietnamesc people, with refusing to negotiate seriously, with attempting to impose defeat and humiliation" on the United States and "maltreating" the American pilots captured in Viet Nam.

Hanoi Press Opinion

It was obviously psycholo-gical warfare. He also made known that the US did not name a successor to Cabot Lodge at the head of the US delegation at the Paris Conference on Viet Nam. This lack of good faith on the US part in the effort to find political solution.

Concerning the "Vietnami-

zation" of the war plan, Nixon claimed that he had got a "much more favourable report with regard to the training of South Vietnamcasualties "continue to be at the lowest rate", thus makanother reduction of American combat tropps. Hethreatened that if the South Vietnamese people stepped up their fight for self-liberation the US "shall not hesitate to take strong and effective measures". On the other hand, Nixon promised that the US would be "flexible and forthcoming" if the Vietnameso people were willng to "talk seriously" which means in effect to accept US absurd terms.

Mr Nixon's December 15 address was just the playing back of an old record. It gave no indication that the US would stop its obdurate prosecution of the war and give up its neo-colonialist policy. However, the speech did draw attention to two points.

book to prove that his "Vietnamization" of the war plan was a "success".

Thompson is a British officer who helped the US set up "strategic hamlets" in South Viet Nam and who later packed up after the 'special war" had failed. Thompson is now hired by Nixon to peddle his " Vietnamization '

Secondly, Nixon announced the reduction of so one more /US troops by April 15, 1970, describing it as 'another orderly step in our plan for peace." fact, it is another move in the US scheme to prolong the war. As made clear by American public opinion, the point is not to pull out 25,000, 35,000 or 50,000 US troops. The point is that will remain over there 400,000 US troops and 60,000 troops of US satellites after

the troop cut. Meanwhile, the war continues. Compared to the total of US expeditionary forces existing in South Viet Nam or to remain in South Viet Nam. the US troops already withdrawn or to be withdrawn only represent a small portion. When asked by a journalist on June 19 last to comment on ex-Defence Secretary C. Cliftord's view that 100,000 US troops should be pulled out this year, Nixon stated that be would " beat Clifford's time-table". The fact is that in 1960 the US only pulls out to oon troops.

Public opinion in the United States has complained that troop cuts of the Nixonian type are "too slow and too small " (UPI, Dec.16). The AFP Saigon correspondent reported that many Firstly, the US President GIs "ironically" commentinvoked Robert Thompson's ed on Nixon's address, and

quoted an American Army sergeant as saying, "Nixon's just throwing people a bone for Christmas.

It is clear that Nixon's decision to withdraw some more troops is only political sop for home consumption, not an effort to end the war We denounce to world public opinion the US scheme to prolong the war and the bacharous crimes committed by the US, puppet and satellite to against the South Vietnam ess people typical of which are the bloodbaths in Son My, Ba Lang An, Kong H'Ring and many other places. We protest against the obdurate attitude of the US government at the Paris

The Vietnamese people's position expounded in the four points of the DRVN Government and the tenpoint averall solution of the Provisional Revolutionsev Covernment of the Republic of South Viet Nam. is a principled and just one which enjoys broad sympathy and support in the world. Their serious and good-will attitude recently found further expression in the statement Foreign Minister Nguyen Thi Binh of the RSVN PRG that in case the US accepted withdraw from South Viet Nam all its troops within six months, then th parties would discuss the pull-out time-table and the guarantee of security for US troops Nixon's rejection of this proposal shows that the US is unwilling to bring home totally and unconditionally the US troops from South Viet Nam, and that instead it persists in demanding a price for such a step from the Vietnamese people.

Nhan Dan (The People)

US Crimes in North Viet Nam in November

THE US air force made 850 sorties with manned or unmanned planes and carried out 420 reconnaissance missions over North Viet Nam: 15 in Nghe An, 60 in Ha Tinh, 100 in Quang Binh, 220 in Vinh Linh and 25 in other areas north of the 19th parallel, including 4 over Hanoi and 5 over Haiphong.

F. 4. F. 105, AD. 6 tactical planes and B.52 strategic bombers launched 24 attacks on the populated areas be-tween the 17th and 19th parallels, on November 10, 11, 12. 13. 15. 17. 23. 25 and 28.

In Nghe An provincs: US jets bombed successively many hamlets of Nam Can village, Ky Son district. On Nov. 11, at 6 a.m. two AD.6s rocketed Cha Lat village. On Nov. 12, at 10 a.m. and

4 p.m., eight AD.6s dropped demolition hombs and CBUs on Huoi Phong, Huoi Lao, Cheng and Ai Khe, causing Cheng and At Kac, causing 8 casualties among the inhab-itants and burning their devellings and belongings. Huoi Phong gutted by fire

In Ha Tink province: On Nov. 28, at 1 p.m., UB aircraft strafed Huong Son district.

In Quang Bish province: On Nov. 11, from 9.45 a.m. to noon, nine F.4s and two F.105s mounted six raids on Minh Hoa district, releasing 46 explosive bombs of various sizes and 7,800 pellet bombs : 12 people were wounded. On

Nov. 11 and 15, twelve B.525 carried out carpet bombings, pouring 360 tons of explo-sives on the same district: 21 casualties were recorded and a number of houses and property burnt.

In Vinh Linh area: On Nov. 10, at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. four armed helicopters strafed Minh Phuoc co-operative (Vinh Son village) by 12.7 mm and 20 mm guns, damaging some dwelling houses. On Nov. 12, at ing houses. On Nov. 12, at 10 p m. six B.52s carpet bom-bed Huong Lap village, pouring on 180 tons of ex-plosives.

On Nov. 14, 16, 17, 18, 21,

22, 25 and 27, long-range guns based on warships of the 7th Fleet and south of the Ben Hai river fired over 200 shells on the villages of Vinh Quang, Vinh Son and Vinh Tuong: Vinh Quang alone was hit by about 160 shells

Every day, from 15 to 20 US warships would cruise off Ouvnh Lun seacoast (Nghe An province) and Cua Tung (Vinh Linh), threatening the activities of fishermen. On Nov. 22, 25 and 20, in particular, they crossed the 19th parallel and were seen 20km off Thanh Hoa seashore.

VIET NAM COURIES

25th FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIET NAM PEOPLE'S ARMY

SCENES OF THE VNPA COMBATANTS' LIFE

The Race Is On

THE 3,300th US plane has been brought down over North Viet Nam, but the race is on between gunner No 1 Le Van Long who has taken part in 887 engage-ments and Nguyen Kuan Long, a spotter who has been directly involved in nearly one thousand lights with the Yankees. It is a contest of combat skill. Whereas Le Van Long or "Big Long" who insists on continuing as gunner No I (not u itil the US unconditionally US unconditionally ceased the bombardment of North Viet Nam did he agree to Viet Nam did he agree to take charge of the whole battery) has been active for 2 years and 7 months without 2 years and 7 months without receiving a single wound, "Little Long" is passionately fond of his spotting job. Over the past 4 years, both Long have been chosen to attend the annual congress of model fighters of the Song Gianh A-A artillery. "Little Long" has been decorated. Long" has been unanimously elected by the unit as "determined-to-win fighter" while "Little Long" has been given the same title by the

whole outfit. At the combat position of Company 4, often at noon time under the blazing sun, "Big Long" is seen revolving his gun and taking a sight in the direction of the sun, at first for 5 or 10 seconds, and 2 minutes.

a similar drill. It is safe to say that he has the best ever eye sight in the Song Gianh eye sight in the Song Gianh detachment. Often enough, he has spotted the target from a very great distance and sent back accurate reports to the company leader. While observing easter. While observing enemy planes on a dive-bomb-ing run, he is not only able to report unerringly on the distance, speed distance, speed, etc. with calm he can also with calm he can also foresee where this or that string of bombs will land. Company leader Nguyen Viet Ram regards as completely reliable the observation results given by "Little Long." In one battle, "Little Long." was sure that a CBU was about to hit the gun about to hit the gun site. Ram accordingly took necessary and timely safety precautions and nebody was

Fighters of the Song Gianh

skill. Everybody still remembers that on August 7, 1965, as gumer No 5, "Big Long" used his body to cover the loading device during an action. A little more than a month later, he again pro a month later, he again pro-tected his wounded comrade Ho Si Duong with his own body. He likes to offer to share with civilians his fox-hole when there is an alert. During a night rain, he alone moved all the 50 munition moved all the 50 munition cases off the water-logged area to allow his comrades to have a good sleep.

Now, the story about "Big | Long" Little Long" has become an interesting t for officers and men of the Song Gianh A-A artillery to study. What prompted "Big Long" to accomplish his job as gunner No r with flying colours throughout. this one-thousand day period? Why has "Little Long" been able to spot the enemy planes (often with only his naked eye) so quickly so accurately when they still look like tiny pinheads? All that secret should be

The battle of Sentember 8

1967 was a case in point. Once

again spotter Nguyen Xuan

Long succeeded in locating 2 F, 4C's. Within seconds, all gun barrels of the unit were gun barrels of the sinit were trained in the direction of the incoming planes. "Little Long" kept a keen eye on the moving targets. He let hem in closer and closer 15 km, 10 km, 5 km and finally within firing range. detachment have learnt a lot from this contest of battle finally within firing range.
The go-signal given, the
whole unit opened up. The
lead plane was put down on
the spot in the very rounds
of ack-ack fire and its pilot
captured. "Little Long"
was again rated first among the family of spotters for this remarkable feat. The race is on between "Big Long" and "Little Long" who are honing their skills through training, maintaining high vigilance and standing ready at all times to wipe out the US aggressors any-where the Fatherland wants

Cultural and Artistic Activities at Anti-Aircraft Automatic Gun Company S.

COMPANY S. is as good in combat as it is in cultural and art activ-ities. When preparing for

an operation, the company not only painstakingly sees to its weaponry and food supplies, but also carefully plans its cultural and art activities in the field. In the men's packs there are also bamboo flutes, and make shift mandolins, and books everything kept in good shape. It seems these things lighten the knapsacks. Merngaten the knapsacks. Mer-ry songs help quicken the pace of the fighting men going up the line. Even under rains of bombs and shells, the combatants' mood remains gay and cheerful

Ope: Platoon ; cut down an enemy plane in the very first rounds of automatic weapons fire. The Truong, Cong Chinh, Bui Thi Sy and others, immeditately tore a bit of paper off munition cases and sat writing a flash report on their knees, their backs leaning against the gun tripod, for the Front's gun tripod, for the Front's news bulletin. Between two battles, the men used to gather around the gun tripod to hear An Van Tan to hear An Van Tan recite poems composed on the spot to extol the successes of the

Hardly had the unit ended a daring engagement when Tien Due wrote a short play

entitled " Hillside Position in praise of the seek-anddestroy spirit.

Cultural and artistic ac tivities have become one of the criteria they strive to achieve in the company emulation drive. Every platoon has its own wall paper which can be rolled up and moved from place to place. Activists from 3-man teams, squads and platoons have been gathered to form the company's cultural and artistic groups. In this way, after each action, the company has been able to offer a substantial program of has also issued monthl combat experience and introslucing its exemplary mer

The booklet " For Peace ain) Independence and sto-ries about model fighters and deeds have been read and deets have been read and re-read and discussions held in every outfit. Good examples are commended in time and multiplied meetsantly

Every gun outfit has its s or 6 books which are passed from hand to hand in the combat position.

Songs have never ceased resounding at Company S.'s position, playing a share in the unit's successes.

Versed in Capturing US Pilot, **Expert at Grounding US Plane** pirate is. Hurry up. mater!"

SINCE the day her hun-band joined up, Nguyen Thi Mun, political instructress of the militia platoon of Tu My hamlet, Trung Trach village, Quang Binh province, has been over head and ears in bublic work. she has managed to get A grade work-points in cultural production and her lumily has had surplus paddy

to sell to the state.
The Tu My inhabitants never forget the day when her unit was braving enemy's bombs and shells to salvage the people's

property. "Petite but plucky" said old Bung of her when Mun, at the head of her unit, has cabtured an American major pilot. It was a pitch dark night. A jet plane sneaked in in an attempt to wreak havoc on har hamlet, but was shot down by our AA dejence before doing any harm. Mun saw a flaming torch plummet-ing to earth. Immediately e gave orders to her mates she gave orders to her mates to rush in several columns in the direction of the downing plane, while she herself, with a rifle firm in her hand, led smull group across field despite the frantic drone of US rescue aircraft and the bright light of enemy flares overhoad. "That's good, We can better see where the air

pirata is. Hurry up, huntas: "no sooner had she said than a lighted signal was sent up to the commy, revealing the "pitot's hiding place." Munshould in fact Mun saw him behind an elevated ricefield dyke. She fired up a shot and cried, "Hunts up!" when her mates rushed in tied up the pirate and collected his para-In early spring 1968, while

the general offensives and concerted uprisings took place in the South, Mun was cutrusted by the Party local committee with the tash of commanding a militamomen unit which had had many engage-ments with enamy planes but could shoot down none. Her team males chafed as other units had grounded American aircraft. "To down an airplane requires not only courage but intelligence, technique and a good command," Mun said to herself. She had models of various types of American aircraft made to study appropriate ways of firing at fighter bombers and disecombine jets.

One afternoon, taking advan One aftermoon, tasking, awain tage of a cloudy sky, from the sea two F.1055 flew in . the leading one fired some rockets which exploded a dozen waters from her unit, raising a lot of dust and smoke. Man



"The people are to the army what water is to the fish" goes a saying

morned her mates warned her mates to watch the second one which was nose-diving. At soon as she gave the firing signal when 21 builteds scored a direct his at the intruder.

All the inhabitants were bubbling over with joy. Mun was cited as a commander and expert at grounding US planes. She has received the "Resolute Fighter" title for WAST PHUNKING.

THE OLD MAN OF THE GUN EMPLACEMENT

I was late in the night. Old Chuan had just refurned from the gun am-placement. The sounds of moving caterpillars became more and more audible at this end of the village. Knowing that the armymen were coming.

he suched out with a hurri cane-lamp. No sooner had he reached the highway than the convoy

of gun-hauling tractors rattled to a stop. The company leader

(Continued page 7)



President HO CHI MINH and General VO NGUYEN GLAP (in the First Resistance War)

(Continued from base 1)

Partial insurrections broke out, liberated areas were created and preparations for the General Insurrection were made in the greatest orgency.

In August 1945, an international event of paramount importance proved very propitious to the Vietnamese Revolution: after defeating the German fas-cists, the Soviet Red Army dealt a mortal blow at the Japanese fascists by wiping out their Kwantong Army, and crushed Japanese fascism, the chief enemy of the Victnamese people at the time. At this great juncture, a national conference of the Party, convened by its Central Committee, decided to haunch the Concral Insurrection to seize numed the General Insurrection to seize power throughout the country. The revolutionary storm was let loose Within a very short time, the August General Insurrection was suggessful. Papither revolutionary power was established throughout the country and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nami was proclaimed.

were also days of quick development, beyond all expectation, of the semi-armand armed revolutionary forces Following the triumph of the August Revolution, these became the Army of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam: the Viet Nam People's Army.

I have just outlined the process and the conditions of the founding and development of the Vict Nam people's armed forces. This process is characterized by the following features:

First, the Viet Nam people's armed forces arem from the political and military line of the Viet Nam Workers' tary line of the Viet Nam Workers, Party, Our Party beaded by Comrade Ho Chi Minh is the organizer and builder of our people's armed forces, We owe them to our Party and Presi-dent Ho. The leadership of the Party has been the banner guaranteeing victory for the Vict Nam people's

Second, the Viet Nam people's armed forces saw the light and grew up in the revolutionary movement, in the opris-ing of the entire Vietnamese people for self-liberation and in the flames of the revolutionary war. It is truly an army born of the people and lighting for the

Third, on the international plane, the birth and growth of the Vict Nam peo-ple's armed forces, just as the develop-ment of the Victnamese revolution in general, are closely linked with the invincible force of Marxism-Leninism, with the great successes of the Soviet Red Army during the Second World

War, with the development and achieve ments of the socialist camp and of the world revolutionary movement in our

OMRADE Minister, what have been in your opinion the most essential stages of the development of the VietNam People's Army during the past 25 years under the Party's leadership?

FIRST of all I would like to under-score this point: the history of the Vict Nam people's armed forces is ultimately associated with the develop-ment of the Victnamese Revolution. The building and development of our armed forces, as already said above, dates back to the birth of our Party, to the creation of self-defence for-mations and the first guerilla detach-

the period from their founding to the August Revolution of 1945 was that of the setting up of the people's armed forces on a na-tional scale. It was also that of development by leaps and bounds of the Victnamiese Revolution and the Viet Nam people's armed forces. Toge-ther with the entire people, the people's armed forces victoriously carried out the General Insurrection, shattered the Japanese fuscist yoke and installed the people's power.

In fact, in the mounting anti-Japa-ness action for national salvation, and particularly in the glorious days of the General Insurrection, the people's armed forces grew up considerably and became the Viet Nam People's Army immediately after the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. Thus, this prophetic prediction of Comrade Ho Chi Minh in his instructions concerning the creation of the propaganda squad of the Viet Nam Liberation Army came true: "In spite of its modest beginnings, it will have a very glorious. future. It is the embryo of the Liberation Army; it will operate through the length of our country, from South to North."

The period from the August Revolu-tion of 1945 to mid-1954 was that of the training and rapid growth of the Viet also the period during which, together with the entire people, they victoriously carried out the great war of resistance against the French imperialists and US interventionists.

Shortly after the August Revolution and the emergence of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the French colonialists unleashed a new war of aggression of our territory.

In such a situation, responding to the appeal of the Party and the revolu-tionary power headed by President Ho Chi Minh, resolved to "make every sacrifice rather than see their land ruled by foreigners and live in slavery", the armed forces and entire people of Viet Nam waged a protracted people's war of resistance on all fronts with the firm resolve to wipe out the aggres-

During the nine years of our Resistance, confronted with an enemy having a military and economic potential many times bigger, the Viet Nam peo-ple's armed forces, side by side with the entire people, displayed an unbend-ing will to rely on their own efforts to defy innumerable privations and hard-ships and to fight courageously and stubbornly and wipe' out the greatest number of enemy troops possible while preserving and building up their own potential. From disparate units, exclusively infantry, equipped with radi-mentary weapons, they gradually grew, in the crucible of war, into more and more important main force units before becoming big units composed of different services. Starting essentially with gue-tilla warfare, they later became able to conduct offensive campaigns of ever bigger scale, and accomplished their tasks, worthy of being the bard core of the people's war of resistance. The most characteristic event in this period was the great Dien Bien Phu victory for which they shared the credit with the rest of the people, making a decisive contribution to the success of the Geneva Conference, the restoration of peace in Indo-China and the complete libera-tion of North Viet Nam.

From 1954 to 1964, it was the period of the building of the army of the socialist State in the conditions of restored peace in the North, with a view to defending the socialist North, contributing to its building in order to make it a steady revolutionary base for the whole country.

After the conclusion of the Geneva Agreements, Viet Nam has been temporarily divided into two zones. The Vietnamese Revolution entered a new stage, that of consolidation of peace, of strug-gle for the reunification of the country and for the building of socialism in North Viet Nam

Confronted with the above-mentioned situation and tanks, our people's armed forces have not ceased developing the qualities inherent in their nature and fine traditions, stepping up the training of troops in order to become a revolutionary, regular and modern army; at the same time, they have been striving to increase their vigilance and stand ready at all time to fight the enemy. Side by side with the rest of the people they have foiled all bellicose manouvres and war provocations of the enemy, accomplishing with merits all the tasks entrusted to them by the people.

From the end of 1964 and early 1965. while escalating their war of aggression in South Viet Nam, the US imperialists threw their air and naval forces into

brazen attacks against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, an Independent contribution of Viet Nam, an Independent contribution of Viet Nam, an Independent contribution of Viet Nam, and Several State, member of the derable combat experiences and ever socialist camp. The North Jova thus face up to an extremely savore war of destruction launched by the US imperialists. During that period, our armed forces, side by side with the entire people, won a very important victory in the fight against US aggres-sion, for national salvation by completely defeating the war of destruction by the US imperialists,

Holding high the banner of the Party and President Ho Chi Minh, the banner of "determination to defeat the US aggressors," the armed forces and people of North Viet Nam

TASKS OF THE VIET NAM PEOPLE'S ARMY

This should be underlined: never since the signing of the 1934 Geneva Agreements have the gwns of the imperialist aggressors been completely stlent in our national territory taken as a whole. Treading in the footsteps of the French imperialists, the US imperialists have launched a very atrocious war of aggression with a view to turning South Viet Nam into a neo-colony and a military base of the US; as a result, on the Southern Great Frontline, our 14 million dear fellow-countrymen, continuing the traditions of the first sucred war of resistance against the French impotorces and people of North Met Nam fellow-ceastrymes, costissing the magninatively applied the line of the people's war and conducted a people's resistance against the Franch imparation of the people's pagainst the aggressors chiefly against the property agai

and difficulties, devised effective tacti-cal methods and achieved very high combat efficiency. At present, they combat efficiency. At present, they are defeating the US imperialists and their lackeys' 1.2 million-strong army armed with up-to-date equipment and composed of the best trained American

The heroic People's Liberation Armed Forces of South Viet Nam, a credit to the armed forces and people of the entire Vietnamese nation, have been doing their valuable bit in the resistance against the US aggression, steadily taking it to total victory.

During the past 25 years the Vict-During the past 25 years the Viet-namese nation has written the most magnificent pages of its history. In that period, inspired with a single purpose, it has been, together with its armed forces, credited with extraor-dinary feats and has got the better one after another of three big imperialisms: Japanese fascism, French imperialism and US imperialism. Once again wish to emphasize that our people's armed forces owe their great accom-plishments to the sound and inventive leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, to the immense love and care afforded them by our people, to the generous aid pervaded with proletarian sternationalism of the countries in he socialist camp. I would like therefore to take this opportunity to convey our most heartful thanks to the l'arties, peoples and armies of the fraternal socialist countries for their

OUESTION 3

OMRADE Minister, what are C to your mind the most important factors determining the high combat power of the Viet Nam People's Army and its successes in the fight against the US aggressors?

THE overriding factor of all the The overrising factor of all the great successes of our people and creative revolutionary line and military line of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the sagacious leadership of the Party headed by President Ho Chi

The Party has been the founder, organizer, educator and leader of the Viet Nam people's armed forces from their creation to the present stage of development. It has creatively squared the fundamental tenets of Marxism-Leninism regarding war and the army with the realities of the Vietnamese Revolution and put into practice Fre derich Engels's views on the people's war and Lenin's theses on the "new army", an army composed of "politically awakened peasants and workers"
"fighting for the emancipation of the oppressed." It has enhanced to a high level the traditions of stubborn and unflinching struggle, of bravery and ingeniosity and the valuable experiences of the Vietnamese nation in its resist-

The Party has created an army absolutely loyal to the Fatherland, the people, the socialist and communist ideal, animated by an ardent patriotideaf, animated by an ardent patronism, a genuine spirit of proletariam internationalism, always ready to fight unyie ldingly and possessed of splendid combat qualities. The Viet Nam people's armed forces have proved worthy of the commendations of the Party and President Ho Chi Mish: "Loyal and President Ho Chi Mish: "Loyal capable, and president of the people, and president of the people, and president of the people of the province of the pr rialist aggressors.

The Party leadership over the armed forces is an unqualified, direct and comprehensive one, in the political, ideological and organisational fields as well as in the accomplishment of all the tasks of building, lighting and work.

In the building of the armed forces, our Party has always attached great importance to increasing the combat efficiency of the revolutionary army, combat morale, political consciousness organisational standard of the command tactical and technical capacity of the men and officers, the men and officers, the material technical foundations of the army, etc. We also see to the improvement of the equipment and the training of the troops, thereby providing an ever lat-ter material base for the fighting efficiency of the army. However, the first preoccupation of our Party still remains the forging of the men educate and train the fighter cadre, Party member and member of the youth organisation in the army, into a combatant with an ever higher revolutionary conscience, with a passionate love for the Fatherland and socialism, with a will to fight stubbornly make of him a valiant and clever light-er who is proficient in the use of, and can make the most of, all weapons and can make the most of, all weapons in his possession to outwit the enemy. Such a task is the application of Lenin's teaching: "In whatever war, in the final analysis, what decides who shed their blood on the battlefield." Consequently we have given pride of place to political work in the army.

relationship between man and arma-ments as said above and taking care to instil a great determination to fight into the armed forces, we have also paid due consideration to the question of strategy and tactics which provide the army with tactical forms and methods really efficacious and most suitable to the concrete situation on suitable to the concrete situation on the operational theatre in Viet Nam. These are combat methods as daring as original which help further enrich the military art of Marxism-Leninism.

It is precisely thanks to such a line that in the conditions of Viet Nam, a country which has neither a very vast territory nor a very large population, our people and our armed forces have been able to pro-

ance to foreign aggressors all along its centuries-old history. At the same trine, the Party has assimilated in an array are represented by the fracterial countries in their armied struggles and in the building of their revolutionary armed forces.

Institute the material continues armied struggles and in the building of their revolutionary armed forces. numerou troop strongth against an aggressor superior numerically and equipped with more modern weapons, against the army of the USA, chieftam of all imperulisms whose the biggest in the capitalist world.

QUESTION 4

WHAT objectives has the Viet Nam People's Army set and deteating any enemy." They tepresent a concrete—materialisation of the Victnamese revolutionary beroism in the present epoch, the spoch of victory of the valuent ening the defence potential of the Democratic Republic of Victorialist aurements.

THE Yankee imperialists are heading for an ovident failure for an evident failure and doubt-lessly for total defeat However, To an evition statute and constitution of the crimes against our people. At the same time, they are stepping up their inter-vention and aggression against Laos and Cambodia.

Viet Nam is one country, the Vietnamese people are one nation. So long as South Viet Nam, the other half of our country so dear to us, remains under the yoke of the US imperialist aggressors. North Viet Nam cannot en-joy a genisine peace In consequence, the most sucred task of our entire ictory is the morale of the manage into some state of the hold of the hattlehold. Consequently we have given
into or jace to political work in
the army.

After settling satisfactorily the

Together with our people throughout the country, our people's armed forces are resolved to translate into deeds President Ho Chi Minh's instructions: So long as a single aggressor remains in the territory, we must fight on and sweep him away".

While the North of our country is doing its best to fulfil its duty as the Great Rear toward the Great Frontline of the South, the Viet Nam people's armed forces never forget their heavy responsibilities in the defence of the socialist North, revolutionary base of the entire country. They are set to increase their combat power in all



December 22, 1944: General CO NGUYEN GIAP reading the Soldiers' Oath on the day of the formation of the first unit of the Uset Nam People's Army.

entire people, with the anti-aircraft forces of the regular army, the regional forces and the people's militia for-mations as the core. Making use of all kinds of arms at their disposal: rifles, machineguns, anti-aircraft guns of all calibres, surface-to-air missiles, jet fighter aircraft, etc. our people's armed forces wove a powerful fire network over the whole country: they even-tually exploded the mythical "suprem-acy" of US air power, dealing at both the modern Air Force and Navy US hard and deserving blows. Thanks to the lucid and inventive leadership of the Party, the great vitality of the socialist regime, a high revolutionary heroism and the precious and important aid of the fraternal socialist countries, never before had the national defence forces of our the national defence forces of our people developed to such a high level on all fronts and grown so quickly as in the years of resistance against the US imperialists. At present, the people's armed forces of Viet Nam consist of solid main force units with

of resistance, this time against the imperialists and their hough nen-

Under the able leadership of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and, since recently, also of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, the armed forces and people of the heroic South have recorded a series of splendid successes in the last few years. In particular, since the series of general attacks and uprisings and scored brilliant unprecedented achievements on all fronts, military, political and diplomatic. These have been considerable military exploits of a people's war brought to a very high

movement of the masses, steeled in the crucible of the war of liberation, the South Vist Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces, illustrous younger brother of the Viet Nam People's Army, have brought into ever fuller different services provided with modern equipment; they also included powerful elder. They have shown matchless regional troops and people's militude.



LPF MEMORANDUM ON US **GROWING USE OF "SPECIAL FORCES"**

THE Lactian Patriotic Front has recently issued a memorandum on the accelerated formation and use by the US imperial-ists of "Special Forces" in their war of aggression in

The memorandum recalls that after the signing of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on traditional "divide and rule" policy, the US imperialists egged their Vientiane stooges on to create the "Meo Au-tonomous Region", the "Kha They also gave orders to chieftains to issi weapons highlanders to fight the rev olution, and pressganged the mountain dwellers into an army called "Special Forces"

The US imperialists have made the bandit Vang Pao 'leader" of the Meo nation "leader" of the Meo nation-ality and "commander in chief" of the "Special Forces". The organization, cupipment, training, com-mand and marshalling of forces of that army are as-sumed by American officers themselves.

Denouncing US interference in Laos' affairs, Senator Fulbright, Chairman, of the US Senate Committee Foreign Relations, said that the US had defrayed 150 mil lion dollars a year to propup the Laotian clandestine

From bandit gangs and commandos led by the French colonialists, the "Special Forces" have grad-ually become an army several tens of thousands strong with a complete set-up and rommanding system. Senator Fulbright revealed that the "Special Forces" had 35,000 men divided into 80 battal ions called "special battal-ions", "voluntary battal-ions", "clandestine army", "mobile groups". Besides, this army is composed of special commando units which the US imperialists have introduced in the patriotic forces' free areas to spot bombing targets and give help to downed Amer-

commandos for sabotage commands for sabotage missions have been trained in Thailand, Japan and the US, Many US and Thai mix-ed commando groups hav-been responsible for their training and command.

On the US imperialists' orders, the Thai and South Vietnamese commandos co-ordinate their actions with those of the "Special Forces" in spying on and sabotaging patriotic forces' rear chiefly the areas bordering

memorandum nounces that all the "Special placed under the US special supreme command of HQ.333 in Udorn. They are not unwar machine in Vientiane. This special supreme command has its representation Vang Pao at Long Cheng, HQ and refuge of the 'Special Forces" in Laos, and also near the HQ of the "second military sector nominally commanded" by Vang Pao. Long Cheng, an area entirely kept secret, has been built by the US imperialists and turned into capital city of the so-called. Meo nationality".

One of the cardinal roles of the "Special Forces" is to launch attacks and operations of encroachment on the free areas and set up mili-tary bases from which nibbling actions can be mounted by the US and its lackeys.

Pa Thi, one of the most important bases before its liberation by the patriotic

into a modern radar station called Ta Can, covering the whole of the free area in Upper Laos and part of the DRVN territory. Ta Can base, swayed by 20 American and their military specialists, commanded the air raids on the free zone in Upper Laos and the DRVN

The memorandum that the most typic encroaching attack was the "Kou Kiet" operation launched in August 1969 in Xieng Khuoang involving over 30 "Special Forces" battalions and supported by thousands of American "Green Berets" Thai combat troops and US

The memorandum cor cludes that despite all their perfidious and brutal manocuvres, the American imperialists and their myrmi dons cannot ward off defeat. get out of their political isolation and stave off the collapse of the "Special

SON MY CRIME CONDEMNED BY CAMBODIAN ROYAL GOVERNMENT

WORLD

(December 13, 1969 statement)

THE Royal Government of Cambodia was pleased to learn that the US Government, under pressure of public opinion, admitted for the first time that US troops were responsible for the war crime at Son My (South Viet Nam). The extermination of 500 defenceless Vietnamese civilians, including women and children, can thus be listed after the atrocities condemned twenty years ago by the Nuremberg Tribunal.

It should be recalled however that the Son My massacre was preceded and followed by other killings of civilians still kept in the dark to date. and that thousands of women and children were and are still murdered by US troops. To these war crimes are also added terrorist air raids, sprayings of toxic chemicals, etc. imputable to the US total war of destruction in Viet Nam.

The Royal Government still hopes that all coun-The Royal Government selli Ropes that all countries in the world and great international organizations will succeed in persuading the American rulers to put an end to the outburst of savagery that the war of aggression in Viet Nam is. It points out on this occasion that Cambodia is also a victim and recalls the systematic murder of fourteen Cambodian peasants-men, women and chil-dren-by helicopter pilots on June 29, 1968 at Svay A Ngong, the sprayings of toxic chemicals at Mi-mot in April and May 1969, and the recent nur-derous attack on Dak Dam post and locality.

At the present juncture, the Royal Government cannot give the slightest credit to the professions of peace of the US government, which are utterly at variance with daily truth. Only a total withat variance with daily truth. Only a total with-drawal of US aggressive forces from Viet Nam and respect of the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of the Indo-Chinese people will show US sincerity.

In the USA

3rd Moratorium Against Viet Nam War

A new campaign of protest against the US war of aggression in Viet Nam or an immediate and withdrawal of US total troops from South Viet Nam has flared up in many cities of the United States.

Meetings, demonstrations, talks, public discussions, special religious services, readings of the names of Gls killed in Viet Nam, distributions of leaflets against the war, and collections of funds for peace organizations, have been held in many parts of the country.

Organizers of the third moratorium did not plan to stage mammoth meetings and parades in big cities like the two previous occasions in October and November. They instead intended to spread the movement geographically so as to cover as many localities and people as possible.

A demonstration under the motto" Withdraw imme diately all US troops from Viet Nam " took place on December 12 in Portland (Oregon). An important group of federal functionaries staged an anti-war meeting in Washington. In Columbus (Ohio), the participants in a

meeting observed a minute of silence in memory of the victims of US aggression in Viet Nam

Also on December 12, antiwar protesters in Washing-ton declared a one-day hun-ger strike. Many Harvard University students were on hunger-strike yesterday and today. Teachers and professors of primary and secondary schools in the USA went to classes on December 12 with mourning

Students of the Syracuse University (New York) have collected signatures to an appeal for an end to that dirty war.

A candle procession took place in New York, follow-ing a festival for peace, during which many participants spoke against. US policy in Viet Nam.

Also on December 12 painters in New York inauguratgate money would go to the anti-war fund. Anti-war messages and letters have been pouring endlessly into the US administration offices and various papers' editorial boards.

On December 13, participants in the Congress of Young Democrats' Clubs in Las-Vegas (Nevada) called for the pulling out of all US troops out of South Viet Nam. Addressing Congress. Senator E. Muskie criticized Nixon for "turning his back" on the demands of US opinion for an end to the Viet Nam war.

On the same day, at the on the same day, at the gathering of more than 1,000 anti-war protestors in New York, Mayor Lindsay said: "For the sake of our children, for the sake of our country, we must get out of this wretched war right now. '

On December 14 war dis sentient groups called a demonstration in Chicago's Grant Park against the Nam war and the Son My slaughter by US troops.

In Tucson (Arizona), stu-dents of the University of Arizona appeared at local churches and synagogues to distribute anti-war litera ture, Bill White, Vice-Presi dent of the local students organisation, said some from next Saturday through December 24 to protest the continued US involvement in Viet Nam.

At Cambridge, Massachu setts, about 2,300 Harvard and Radcliffe students were

Reuter reported that antiwar activities took place in other parts of the USA. People invited their neighbours in to talk about the war. Leaflets were distributed and small marches, vigils and candle processions

On December 15, more 100 Americans other nationals in Hong-kong staged a vigil protest against the Viet Nam war at the American consulate They held up placards and banners with slogans orging the US government to st

The protest action was sponsored by the American Ad Hoc Committee in Hongkong and the Hongkong International Committee against the War in Viet Nam.

While the anti-war camign was spreading across c United States, demonstrations also took place in many West German cities. including Bonn, Aachen, Gottingen, Dortmund and Plensburg.

A Bonn report said the demonstration in Heidelberg was most violent. 500 de-monstrators stormed "America House" and the America Express Bank

GI Denounces Another Crime of His Buddies

him this conscience and what

nasty things it has brought him: in addition to the ostracism and disapproval

superiors, he narrowly escap-ed a "mistaken fire" from

an American patrol which, as if by chance, included one of the four participants

from his comrades

The French paper France Soir published on October 29 the following story "The raping, them murdering of a young South Vistnamese by young South Vietnamese by four US soldiers is shocking

A N atrotious story is shocking the Ameri-cans. It is about a young South Vietnamese beaten, raped and finally murdered by an American patrol. The report was put out by the magazine New Yorker following the confession by one member of this patrol...

The rape and murder of a young South Victnamese girl by four American soldiers—who came to pick her up as an animal in a with her parents, forced her to join their patrol, made her carry their package, abused her for 24 hours on end, then murdered her in does not speak out "... will does not speak out " - will eventually become the sub-ject of a film some day."

102 "Decause on the maps of the American staff, this is the name of a, woody feak in the High Plateaux where the four GI's left their victim with multiple stabbings and ber shattered by bullets. if their denouncer - the fifth soldier who particligated in the patrol and witnessed the events in horror—bas broken his silence to the American press which he had kept for two years for fear of vengeance against himself. his wife and his child, it is because he had been tormented by remorses.

Published in a great on Hill 192" has horri-fied the Americans, not only by its atrocious content but also because it reveals the mentality of an army where, from officers down to the rank-and-file. rank-and-file, none has blamed the crime which they " normal "of no importance" and where pressures and thenaces, veiled or not, were used against the "denouncer".

captain told him. " risk to. blemish the image of the army at the very moment the latter is facing when the latter is facing combat dangers: The enemy will not fail to make use of the affair for his propa-ganda, etc.

In spite of this and other things, the soldier Eriks-son—the pseudo-name he son-the pseudo-name adopted when he gave famous account-persisted in demanding justice little Phan Thi Mao wh memory haunted his con-

Back today in his native Minnesota where he has resumed his former career as a carpenter, Eriksson

on, he could well be victim

involved in "the crime on Hill 192" before the four were arrested, Written in plain terms, Eriksson's version revolts the conscience of Americans since the affair took place in South Viet Nam and little Phan Thi Mao, 18 years old, was an "ally" of those Vents whom, precisely, the American army is supposed to protect and defend against the "horrors of the inva-

On November 16, 1966 Eriksson related, the lieu-tenant detailed him and three of his buddies and a sergeant for a five-day reissance patrol in Bong Son valley.

To his great astonishment, Eriksson heard the sergeant declare: "We're going to seek a girl and take her along. This is good for the morale of the soldier..."

But the following morning, when the patrol set out, he saw that the sergeant went not in the direction of valley, but towards miserable Cat Tuong har There, always under the sergeant's conduct, the three men-Eriksson left outside-brutally broke into the huts where the peasants and their families were still sleeping. At the fifth hut, the sergeant got out brandishing the electric torch in a triumphal manner, shouting: "There is a pretty girl therein, she has a gold tooth."

The three others hurried in to drag the young girl out of her hut. Terrified, the young Vietnamese clung to her sister, Phan Thi Loc, and to her mother who dragged herself along at the feet of the soldier latter quickly tied hands behind her back and half carried her away. mother ran screaming after them, holding a kerchief of the young girl in her hand.

"Thanks", said one of the goldiers ironically when the mother caught up with them, and he thrusted the kerchief into the mouth of the young girl to silence her. Exhausted, the mother fell to the ground. The patrol left with the captive.

Then began hours of march during which the sergeant hung his heavy package to the frail shoulders of the young girl as if she had been a donkey. The team finally came to an abandoned small but. The five soldiers ate outside. Mao, who was given nothing to eat, was inside.

After the meal, the sergeant stretched himself out and said: "It is time for recrea-tion". As Eriksson showed his disapproval, the sergeant became angry and warned him that if he did not go

Eriksson successively saw his four companions enter the hut and get out of it untidy and hilarious. From inside, came the cries and sobbings of little Mao. The "orgy" lasted about two hours after which the sergeant and three men left again on patrol leaving the prison under the guard of the fourth man. On their return in the evening, the same scenes were renewed and the sergeant, exasperated by the girl's cries, declared that he might have to "finish it off". After discussion, the men decided to kill Mao. The sergeant insisted that it should be a "collective act".

The following day the group returned to near the hilltop, dragging Mao who had fever and was coughing. When he arrived, the sergeant saw in the plain five men who, realizing that they had been spotted, opened fire. The patrol returned fire and the sergeant alerted the radio. The lieutenant replied that he would send a helicopter. Thus, Mao must be get rid of quickly.

The sergeant sent Eriksson and another mun to stand guard, and together with the others he dragged Mao

"I heard a cry," Eriksson related, "and a kind of dry cry of a deer or an elk when stabbed by a hunter

The three men appeared again, and at this moment again, and at this moment Eriksson saw Mao dragging herself on her fours like a wounded animal trying to flee away. "Fire", shouted the sergeant and the men let go their shots at the same time. (Erikason shot in air). The girl collapsed into a bush. One man ran up and fired a coup de grace.

Revolutionary Rule...

(Continued from page N)

the enemy enslaving edu-

vements have won encouragcation and corrupt culture Literature, arts, inform-

This brief account shows ation and press in the liberthat revolutionary power in South Viet Nam is a ation and press in the liberated zone have also made your good progress. Many artistic good progress. Many artistic good progress. Many artistic good progress. Many artistic good progress and progress and progress and progress artistic good progress and progress and progress artistic good progress. mighty force as it springs their strong support. present achievements foretell luture ones, more important still both in combat and

The Old Man of the Gun Emplacement

(Continued from page 3)

alighted from a carriage and warmly said, "Well Dad, not yet gone to bed?"

" No, like everyone in the village, we are waiting for

Then, Old Chuan took the company leader for a round of the gun emplacement.

Some time earlier when it was first built, the gunners had had to go and fetch leaf camouflage although were busy with their fighting job. Seeing that, Old Chuan approached other village elders and raised the problem

"We must plant as many trees as we can to keep the, gun site shady and refreshing and to give our armymen more time to relax so that they can fight ever more effective-

Everybody agreed with him. Next day Old Chuon went about urging villagers to bring banana and banboo trees and other green stuffs to the combat bosition. The tree planting team of the village's old folk even contributed saplings of lirtrees and sandal wood from their nursery.

From that day, Old Chuan pas seen everyday at the gun the banana trees and fir trees. After a rain, h drained off the water to sav the blants from water logging and make the gun emplacement dry and clean. He also kept communication trenches in good condition.

More than 40 battles been fought at this position. In everyone of them, he was present right at the start.

The fighting over, he quickly joined the gunners and mili-tiamon in clearing the battle

After each action, he planted new trees to replace those destroyed by bombs and shells and tended those slightly hit

He also encouraged the inhabitants to extend communi cation trenches in the village to the gun emplacement for rapid and safe ammunition

Dozens of units come and went. Before leaving, the armymon never failed to call on Old Chuan

" H'ell Dad, we hand over the gun emplacement and place it in your and the village's care

Every times our old man answered with pleasure. "Don't worry about that, Try to bag many more enemy planes. That's all that you have to do. We'll look after the gun emplacement just as our own houses. "

Day in day out, Old Chuan saw to it that the place was tidy and in good order just as he took care of his own orchard. Hundreds of banana trees grew luxuriantly. Many had horne fruit. Rows of fir-trees and sandal-wood already east their shade over loot tracks. Shoots began to sprone

Any unit which had fought at this gun emplacement treas-ured a vivid memory of Old Chuan. He was affectionately known as "The old man of the vun amplacement

THE FOUNDING, DEVELOPMENT ...

(Continues from page 5)

fields, to strengthen their will to fight areus, to strengthen their will to light and win, to improve their combat qualities and heighten their vigilance, standing at all times ready to fight and fight well, to sibulder all their obligations toward the people and nation.

For the independence and freedom of the Fatherland, for socialism, for the accomplishment of their noble internationalist duty. them of their noble internationalist duty.

the Viet Nam people's armed forces, like the rest of the Vietnamese people, are determined to light to a finish against US aggression, for national salvation, thereby making a meritorious contribution to the revolutionary cause of the world's peoples.

Before the radiant future of the Vietnamese Revolution, our people and our

people's armed forces feel most deeply in-debted to their vanguard Party and venerat-ed Comrade Ho Chi Minh, their great leader. He is no more, Uncle Ho, our beloved teacher and father who showed such deep solicitude for them, who guided and educatbut the incomparable example and the solicitous teachings he has bequeathed us solicitous feachings he has bequeathed us will remain for ever alive in our hearts. In order to be worthy of his immense work and of his boundless affection, our people's armed forces have taken the solemn pledge to fully implement his historic last directions, to push forward, together with the entire people, the resistance to US aggression, for national salvation, and to bring it to total victory while carrying out satisfactorily the building of socialism, never deviating from the glorious path charted by the Party and President Ho Chi Minh.

Revolutionary Rule Keeps MILITARY OPERATIONS On Consolidating and Developing

THE

A T present, four-fifths of South Viet Nam with at million people out of a total of 14 million are under the revolutionary rule which has established itself which has established itself in 41 provinces and towns, over 150 districts and 1,300 villages among South Viet Nam's 1600. Big cities like Saigon, Hue, Dalat, Da Nang, Can Tho already have their people's revolutionary adminpeople's revolutionary auministration and popular power is spreading to disputed areas or in areas controlled by the enemy. In some committees the proportion of woman mambers reaches up to 40 or even 50 per cent.

even 50 per cent.

This extension of revolu-tionary power has thrown panic among the US-puppets who vainly seek to destroy or discredit this power which belongs to the people, comes from them and works for them. Under its guidance the head care lighting, intensifying production, building and leveloping their revolutionary forces and improving their living conditions.

Irving conditions.

In particular, revolutionary power guarantees to the peasantry the ownership of their land. Up to now, about z million inctares of South Viet Nam's filled land out of nearly 4,5 million have been definitively or temporarily described. distributed.

Irrigation work of digging canals, building of dams... has been developed under the motto "No waste land, no landless peasant", the

peasantry eagerly tackles with farming and in several places, particularly in the Mekong Delta, it has obtained a better yield; 3 to 4 tons of paddy per bectare for one crop, and even 6 to 10 tons in some places

in some places.

Animal husbandry, handicraft, by-trades, the manifacture and repair of agricultural implements have
blossomed. Several villagers
in Central Trung Bo have
reached the target set for
stockbreeding (a pigs and 4,
fowls per family). In some
provinces of the Melong
the model of the model of the set of the
provinces of the Melong
than the flowls in an averpig and 40 fowls in an average. In others, there are up to 10,000 fish ponds.

The revolutionary power has also granted credit to the peasants, supplied them with production means and provided help to the victims of natural calamities, and war. With regard to the ethnic minorities it has adequately catered for their needs in salt and stands. needs in salt and staple needs in

A kind of "communal charter" has been established in the villages of the liberated zone, softing the citizen's obligations and duties in the management of public affairs.

The preservation and ame-lioration of the public health enjoys constant care from revolutionary power. Today the liberated zone is endowed with a sanitary network which, extends from the contre down to the hamlets, with an incleasing staff of medical workers who are at at the same time lighters against the US aggressors and against the US aggressors and tories capable of making out to local material Eastern specialties and Western specialties and several special specialties and several special specialties and several specia

Education has made her Education has made nead-way. Despite countless diffi-culties the people's power has set up a comprehensive system of classes from liter-acy up to secondary ones with a unified syllabus. Regwith a unified syllabus. Reg-ular education for children goes along with popular clueation fog grown ups. The teaching personnel increases with every plasing day. More than up per cent of school-ge children go to school. Every year from 80 to op per cent and sometimes all per classes or successfully higher classes or successfully loss their vast-oul examp. pass their year-end exams. Numerous are those who Numerous are those who have become "gallant fighters" against US aggression or puppet domination while studying, 17 national minorities, now have their own scripts. Education in the liberated greas has also iberated areas has also ctively contributed to check

(Continued page 7)

FIRST TEN DAYS OF DECEMBER

THE PLAF RUSHED MANY POSITIONS INSIDE THE ENEMY DEFENCE PERIMETER AND FOUGHT OFF MANY ENEMY SWEEPS

DEFENCE TACKED EVERYWHERE

THE highlights of PLAF actions were the attacks on the enemy in the Mckong Delta, Southwest of where from Dec. 1 to 10, eight provincial capitals including My The, Can The and Ben Tre, as well as many other smaller urban centres, came under fire.

In My Tho. Ben Tre and Kien Tueng provinces, apart from the assaults on the night from December 2 to 3 already mentioned in our previous issue, Giai Phong Press Agency has reported further onsets on December to which brought the enemy loases in these provinces to ten companies wiped out or decimated, a police Cl³ destroyed, 200 members of the "pacification " teams and 100 puppet militiamen and 15 cannons, mortars and machineguns put out of action and 3 helicopters shot down.

In three other Mckong Delta provinces, Rach Gia. Ca Mau and Au Giang, from December 1 to 6, 3 pupper companies including one of the Marines were knocked out or depleted, 150 pupper troops disabled, two war vessels sunk.

On the Northwestern front of Saigon, in Tay Nish province, 500 enemy cas-ualties were reported and 15 helicopters shot down 15 helicopters shot down between November 30 to December 4. An artillery unit composed of young women twice pounded at a base-camp of the and Brigade of the Tropic Lightning Division, exacting a toll of 134 GIs, blasting out of com-mission 14 helicopters and 6 military vehicles and blotting out an arms deput.

Further to the East, near Ba Dop, 130 adverse men were put out of action and aircraft including 3 jets shot down on December 3 during two battles.

Closer to Saigon, at 52 km West-southwest of the city, the Due Hoe camp of the Special Forces" were heavshelled on December 7 and 8, and 3 rosmm cannons were? wrocked. In Saigen itself, the guerillas on Dec. 8 struck at the police station of the 6th district and a bridge on the city outskirts. In the district of Cu Chi (azkm Northwest of Saigon) famous for the evolute of its guerillas, the latter put out of action so enemy soldiers and 8 military vehicles between Dec. 2 and 7.

At 154km East of Saigo the CP of the Phan Thies military sector, the rearbase of the 44th puppet Regiment, a battalion and a cantonment of the US armoured forces near the town were raided from Dec. 2 to 4. The raided from Dec. 2 to 4. The PLAF inflicted 240 casual-ties, destroyed 17 vehicles and 5 cannons. A hundred kilometres to the Northeast, on December 3 the patriots wrote off the musterroll a company of puppet militia.

Further to the North, a company of the 47th puppet Regiment and 3 militia squads took heavy 300km Southeast of Da Nang. while in the area close the 17th parallel, in the first ten days of December the enemy lost 170 men, 2 belicopters downed and 17 vehicles destroyed

> ENEMY SWEEPS BEATEN OFF

N the Mekong Delta, on December 1, air waves of enemy attacks were repelled at a place 170 km South-west of Saigon in the prov-ince of An Giang. A hundred puppet troops were killed or wounded during these actions. On Dec. 10, near Tuyon Binh, 95 km West-northwest of Saigon, an enemy patrol was engaged in heavy ighting, losing a company of puppet scouts.

In Ben Tre province, December the PLAF 3. assailed 5 puppet companies, and struck off the strength or decimated four others at Bink Dai, 55km South of Saigon.

Enemy saval patrols were hit in the Mekong Delta and four vessels sent to the bottom on two rivers.

Motorized columns of the enemy were intercepted on the various roads near Bu Dop and Han Quas, North of Saigon, and 13 vehicles were destroyed in the same

On the Western High Plateaux, an armoured squadron of the puppet 3rd Regiment fell into an ambush North of Pleiku and was forced to turn back after losing ten. vehicles destroyed.

Puppet Nguyen Van Thieu's Frenzied Clamour

T is reported from Saigon that, on December that, on December 9, 11 and 12, 1969 puppet President Nguyen Van Thieu President Nguyen Van Thieu blasted his opponents as "communists" and "neutral-ists" and threatened to behead them. He called them "cowards" and "ignor-amuses" who had upheld a policy of "compromise" and opted a political settlement.

His frenzied reaction was to cope with his political predicament created by the to cope with his political prelicament created by the mounting opposition of his advergaries, chiefly of the townstolka, to his policy of serving Nixon's war protongation, AFP reported on Dec. 2 that the Students' General Association in Sal-gun had sent to American students a letter welcoming their anti-Viet Nam war actions and protesting against the U.S. "Victnamization" policy in which Vietnamese were set against Vietnamese.

The Saigon students de-manded that US troops be completely withdrawn so that sovereignty and freedom could be restored to South Viet Nam. The Giai Phong press correspondent in Saigon reported that supported by in their action against sequels of the prolongation of the war, the students had set up a " Committee for the Defence of the Citizens Right to Live" and launched a campaign against gutter culture and for the rebaldi-itation of the national culture. In a teach-in on attended also by Dec. 3 attended also by many politicians, the Saigon academic circles came 'out against the puppet rulers' impoverishment of the people and gagging of the press.

The same correspondent said that at a Conference held at the end of Novem-

had exposed the Saigon junta's terror against the Buddhists and suppression of the freedom of belief. At of the freedom of this gathering, Superior Bouze Thich Thien Hoa, Chairman of the Buddhist Religious Institute for b the policy of Buddhism and restore peace. He flayed Thieu-Ky-Huong's misuse of the nation and people, hang-ing on war and lending for-eigners a hand to pile up leath and destruction and to impose neo colonialism on the Victnamese people." He also expressed the firm belief that however powerful the US might be, it would be defeated by the Vietnamese, the war would come to an end and the traitors to the country would be condemned by history.

ber, the Buddhist delegates